Colorado Springs' Lesbian Bi-Monthly Newsletter

New Phazes

TAKING PRIDE IN WHAT WE HAVE; DARING TO DREAM FOR MORE.

Volume 13 Issue 1 Aug/Sept 1999

9TH ANNUAL

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OTHER EVENTS
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ACACIA PARK

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AND AUGUST 28TH

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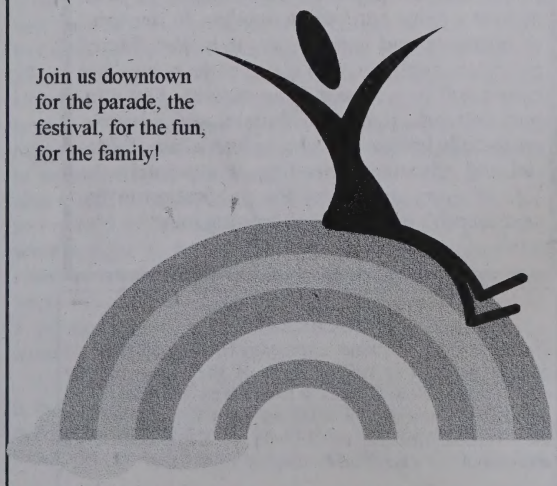

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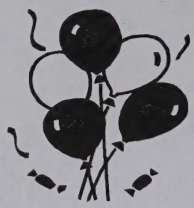

And a very special **Happy Birthday to Donna.** Once again, we are the same age! I Love You, My Forever Friend!

New Phazes
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Colorado Springs, CO 80934
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Mission Statement: To encourage cohesion in the Pikes Peak region's Lesbian community by providing an open forum which stimulates, informs, and entertains.

New Phazes is produced entirely by volunteers 6 times a year **(Feb, April, June, August, October & December).** Issues are mailed or distributed around the first of the month. We reserve the right to edit letters and articles for clarity and conciseness; all submissions must include a name and phone number. In the spirit of openness and community, it is *New Phazes'* policy to publish writer's complete names but names will be withheld upon request. Our support network, staff, contributors, and advertisers include lesbian and non-lesbian allies. Editorial and advertising deadline is absolutely the 15th of every month for the publication in the next month's issue. All advertising must be prepaid.

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LOVE MATTERS

By Linda Sutton

some thoughts on lesbian love

It's summertime re-run time! While Linda is basking in the sun somewhere, we'll do a reprint of one of our favorite columns!

DATING

"There are two possible outcomes of a lesbian date; either the two women never date again, or they get married."

JoAnn Loulan, *Lesbian Passion*

Question: Why do lesbians find it so hard to date? By dating, I mean spending a good deal of time getting to know one another before calling it a relationship and/or getting to know a number of different people before zeroing in on one. It would seem to save a great deal of grief later on if we really knew who we were marrying.

ANSWER: Dating is a topic about which I can only speculate. I don't have much experience doing it. My only experience is in avoiding it. All the relationship experts seem to be suggesting it. I certainly have. The conventional wisdom is that lesbians could have longer lasting, higher quality relationships if they shopped around first. Makes sense on paper. In real life, however, dating seems to strike terror in the hearts of most lesbians. Why is that?

Actually, I think dating is terrifying for most human beings: gay, straight, female, male. It feels like we're really putting ourselves on the line to date—especially when we contemplate initiating a date. Many women say they feel too vulnerable to initiate a date. Others say it feels too awkward, unnatural. Dating brings up all of our self-esteem issues. Are we good enough, smart enough, cute enough? As much as we long to be loved, we are terrified to put ourselves out there for fear no one will ever choose us. We are deathly afraid of rejection. If we don't ask, we can't be refused. We're also afraid of acceptance. What if we ask and the answer is yes? Can we really handle that? As girls, we were taught to be sexually passive. As females, we seem to be naturally cautious. So, some women just wait—hoping that if they go out to a party, to a bar, to a political gathering—and *look* available, just maybe someone will notice them.

We wait awhile to see if we meet anyone. Sometimes it happens right away. Sometimes it takes forever. Finally, someone does come along. We go out once or twice. She seems to really like you. You kind of like her back. You begin a relationship.

Or, someone comes along whom you really want. She really wants you too. You've both recently had your hearts broken. You jump right into a relationship before either of you changes her mind. So much for taking some time. So much for playing the field. Our great emotional need to be loved keeps us from exploring the relationship potential. Our urgency around this need keeps us from dating more than one person at a time.

Our urgency is also driven by our evolutionary makeup. We are, after all, designed to fall in love, have sex, and reproduce. Once we are attracted to a person, we are under the influence of a very powerful sexual chemical known as PEA. Whether we are planning on reproducing or not, PEA is compelling us to "mate." This chemical puts us in an altered state of consciousness in which we feel open, safe, euphoric, and complete. We feel as if we already know this person very deeply. We are convinced that THIS IS IT. We then lock into our new love. We make a commitment, confident that we have enough information. Looking any further is out of the question. Dating, after all, is a pretty rational activity. Mating is not.

As lesbians, dating offers some unique challenges. As someone I know said recently, "There are no social rules for lesbian dating like there are for other social activities, like asking a friend for dinner. So when I'm interested in someone, I just ask her if she wants to go to dinner." As a result, the friend probably doesn't know that she's being asked out on a date. Lots of lesbians tell me they're hanging out with someone new, but they are not exactly sure what it means. I've also heard some lesbians say they are attracted to someone new, but they don't know for sure if the new person is a lesbian, and they are too afraid to ask.

Instead of being direct with a potential date, we pump our friends for information. "Is so and so a lesbian?" "Is she involved with anyone?" "Do you think she would be interested in me?" Asking her ourselves seems out of the question. And if we were so inclined as to ask, we don't know what to say. How do you ask a lesbian out on a date, anyway? How do you find out for sure if she is a lesbian or not? How do you distinguish dinner from a date? Many lesbians really struggle with these questions. None of us ever took a class in lesbian dating. Our moms didn't give us any tips. How's a lesbian supposed to know how to date?

Lesbians have another big problem—internal homophobia. If I ask a lesbian out, I'm admitting that I'm a lesbian. Many lesbians are too uncomfortable with their sexuality to spend much time dating or to be very direct in their dating. You see, each time we think about approaching another woman for a date, we come up against our lesbian self-esteem issues—those issues that Loulan calls our "lesbian snot." It's the feeling that there is something wrong with being a lesbian. We all

(Con't on page 5)

Dyke Psyche

By Ester Rothblum

What's the first thing that comes to mind when we think about women's music? Many Lesbians will recall Alix Dobkin's album *Lavender Jane Loves Women*. I recently spoke with Alix and asked how she first became a Lesbian musician. "I was writing about my own life," she recalled, "so music was part of my consciousness raising." Alix had been a professional folk singer for many years. "I was at the right place, at the right time, with the right background, doing the right thing," she told me. She produced a number of albums of women's music: *Lavender Jane Loves Women* (1973), *Living With Lesbians* (1976), *XXALIX* (1980), *These Women* (1986), *Yahoo Australia* (1990), and *Love And Politics* (1992, a compilation album). *Living With Lavender Jane* (1998) was a re-release onto CD of the first two albums. In addition, *Alix Dobkin's Adventures In Women's Music (Not Just A Songbook)* was published in 1978.

I asked Alix what other music was around for Lesbians when she first began performing. The answer: not much. Robin Tyler had produced Maxine Feldman in 1972; a 45-rpm record with two songs. There was the Chicago Women's Liberation Rock Band and the New Haven Women's Liberation Rock Band Double Album. And in New York, Lesbian Feminist Liberation conducted a talent show and recorded it--the record was called *A Few Loving Women. Lavender Jane Loves Women* was the first album of women's music that was distributed internationally.

"Those days were tremendously exciting," Alix said. "First of all, I was writing about myself AS A LESBIAN. I was writing the kinds of songs in which you could not change a pronoun and have it still make sense. In other words, you could not change my music into heterosexual songs. They were clearly and openly songs about women loving women. I realized that as long as I was writing songs like that, I was writing unique material. No one had ever written that before, and even the women depending on Lesbian audiences almost never write about Lesbians--in fact, they rarely mention women!"

Even today, Alix feels that there is a great need for Lesbians to be writing about their lives. She has sensed at times that women's music has received a bad rap, when in fact it is precisely because of the foremothers in women's music that performers like the Indigo Girls have been successful.

"There is this belief that women's music is confined to folk music, which it never was," said Alix. "The negative reaction coming from many young Lesbians is due largely to the backlash against feminism. Our communities very much reflect what is going on in the world generally and feminism has been dismissed, even by women in our own communities. I would recommend the book *Eden Built By Eyes: The Culture Of Women's Music, Festivals*, by Bonnie Morris (Alyson Press, 1999) for an excellent overview and more details. Women's music is about raising consciousness, and most people don't even know what that is any more. Furthermore, due to budget cuts in education, we've also lost a generation that was schooled to appreciate music." Nevertheless, Alix is excited by the fact that many of her performances these days are at universities, so that she does have an impact on young women.

Lavender Jane STILL Loves Women: An Interview with Alix Dobkin

After a lifetime in New York, Alix is now living in California. She still performs around the country, and is involved with a club that features concerts by women and holds and furthers our culture. The Director, Barbara Price, used to co-produce the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. Alix is writing a column for *Chicago Outlines* and working on a book of her memoirs.

Visit Alix Dobkin's webpage at www.ladyslipper.org/vendors/ladyslipper/alix_dobkin.xtml

To order Alix Dobkin's music and music by other women and Lesbian musicians, contact Ladyslipper Music, P.O. Box 3124, Durham, NC 27715, tel. 1-800-634-6044 or 919-383-8773.

Esther Rothblum is Professor of Psychology at the University of Vermont and Editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies. She can be reached at John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, 05405 email: esther.rothblum@uvm.edu.

BOOK REVIEW

Cat on the Scent:
written by Rita Mae Brown & Sneaky Pie Brown.

Mrs. Murphy once again is the best cat detective ever written about! During Crozet, Virginia's local Civil War reenactment, someone ends up with 3 real bullets in his back. Is it drugs, is it property rights, is it the almighty buck? A must-read for all Mrs. Murphy fans! She, Tucker, and Pewter have us sitting on the edge of our seats in this latest murder mystery!

(Love Matters Con't from page 3)

have it. Why else aren't we shouting our love from the rooftops?" Most of the time we keep our lesbian snot at bay. We fool ourselves into thinking we are perfectly comfortable with our sexuality. (After all, we were rarely having sex at the end of our last relationship.) Or, we try to pretend that we're not really lesbians. (Our last two relationships just-so-happened to be with women.) Those kinds of rationalizations work just fine most of the time—until we begin feeling lonely and start looking around for someone new to be with. Then we come face to face with our lesbian snot.

No wonder lesbians get married on the first date. Just making it to the first date is an act of courage. In order to date, lesbians must confront and override fear, homophobia, and hormones. So, while dating seems like such a sensible, grown-up, civilized alternative to getting married on the first date, it turns out to be quite the challenge, indeed.

I'm sure that there are many lesbians out there with successful dating experiences. Write in to Love Matters and tell us how you do it.

In the meantime, don't ever forget, your love matters.

Linda Sutton M.A. is a psychotherapist in private practice, providing individual, couple, and group psychotherapy. She can be reached at 719-632-0465. Linda is author of the book LOVE MATTERS: A Book of Lesbian Romance and Relationships by Haworth Press. For a catalog of LOVE MATTERS greeting cards and related products, write to LOVE MATTERS, P O Box 8136, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-8136. Reprinted with persmission.

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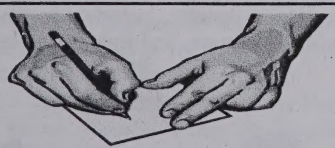


WANTED: WRITERS, POETS, JOKESTERS.

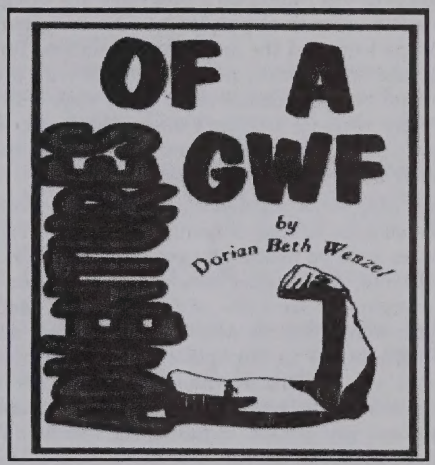
New Phazes is looking for contributors. If you have a short story, your original poetry, your favorite lesbian/bi/gay/transgendered jokes that you would like to see in our newsletter, please mail them to: New Phazes, PO Box 6485, COS, CO 80934-6485 or email them to:

newphazes@juno.com

POETRY CORNER

Diversity
By Katharine Curry
Summer, 1999

I think that there is some perversity
In a God who makes diversity
Then creates both man and beast
To want diversity the least.



By Dorian Beth Wenzel
c 1999

Adventures of a GWF is a lesbian erotical story about a woman's psychological journey of self-discovery and her struggle for sexual freedom and understanding, a *Rubyfruit Jungle* for the '90's.

It takes place in post-Amendment 2 Colorado Springs and is mixed with political and philosophical discoveries, along with various intriguing fantasies. It challenges the reader's perceptions on human sexuality, homophobia, and the lack of Unconditional Love within humanity. It is written in the first person to give it a realistic and cerebral edge, yet is light and entertaining. It also utilizes the simplicity of bumper sticker philosophy, personal tarot readings and the lesbian Amazon warrior image as running themes throughout the story line.

Orders are being received: Directly for $13 (includes Tax, S&H) to: CMP Productions, P O Box 53, Colorado Springs, CO 80901.

America's 10 Best Lesbian Places to work:

1. Chase Manhattan—Chase's workforce is very diverse; 61% women employees, 46% women upper managers, 40% are people of color. The company offers exceptional benefits and has done its share of gay good citizenship. They are a big presence in their hometown of Houston, TX's gay community, even sponsoring the local queer youth group. Chase offers its own child care centers with 20 free days of emergency child care per year, and assists in adoptions.

2. Monsanto—38% women employees, 27% women upper managers. All Monsanto's programs are designed to be hassle-free, to trust people. Between the generous vacation package and the on-site perks such as fitness centers, take-home meals, mothers' rooms with breast pumps, and business casual dress every day, it's easy to see why workers wouldn't abuse this trust. This company's easy-going spirit extends to lesbian employees as well. Being lesbian is no big deal here.

3. Fanny Mae—54% women employees, 32% women upper managers. A serious financial company, Fannie Mae prides itself on treating it's employees well. Housing assistance, full tuition benefits, and free on-site health assessments are a few of the perks that keep its employees happy. Fannie Mae also earns high marks for the diversity of its workplace—40% are people of color, and out lesbians are found in upper management. It has contributed more than $4 million to women's and gay groups, including the Mautner Project for Lesbians With Cancer.

4. American Express—68% women employees. 53% women upper managers. This company has the highest percentage of women employees and managers of all the companies surveyed. And their treatment of gay and lesbian employees are exceptional. Staffing managers regularly participate in gay and lesbian employee meetings, the company recruits at various Pride events, and the gay and lesbian employee network is part of the company's much-touted Diversity Council.

5. Coors—24% women employees, 29% women upper managers. Dogged with boycotts because of the far right spending habits of its founding family, the Coors company has—if anything—over-compensated. The Colorado brewery goes beyond being merely gay-friendly, actively recruiting gay and lesbian employees and funding numerous gay events across the country.

"It's a very open environment," says Mary Cheney, corporate relations manager for the gay and lesbian community.

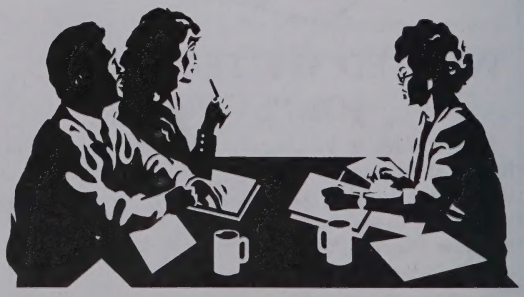
6. Eastman Kodak—37% women employees, 27% women upper managers. A picture may speak a thousand words, but when photos of lesbian and gay families are prominently displayed at a Corp., that says even more—Kodak contributed materials and funding for the photo exhibit "Love Makes a Family: Living in Gay and Lesbian Families." The film and camera company also sponsored the Out and Equal Conference on Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Workplace Issues and last year's Gay Games in Amsterdam.

7. Aetna—76% women employees. This Connecticut company encourages flexible schedules for its workers, including telecommuting, compressing work weeks, and reducing hours to part time. Their impressive slate of benefits is extended to part-timers as well. ANGLE, the company's gay and lesbian employee network, holds regular social events and is represented on the company's diversity board.

8. BankBoston—66% women employees, 31% women upper managers. Lesbian employees at BankBoston have friends in high places—the chief financial officer sponsors the gay and lesbian employee group, and the director of workplace effectiveness is an out lesbian. During the company's Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week, a huge rainbow flag flew in front of their corporate headquarters. It looks as if the mandatory diversity training and well-connected gay and lesbian employee group have really paid off for this East Coast bank.

9. Chevron—23% women employees. Based in San Francisco, CA, Chevron is required to offer domestic benefits—but their dedication to gay and lesbian causes goes beyond just following the rules. Chevron was the first oil company to include sexual orientation in their nondiscrimination and nonharassment policies. The company has also been a high-profile donator to AID's causes and earned bonus points for sponsoring the Lesbians of Achievement, Vision, and Action (LAVA) Awards.

10. NCR—30% women employees, 10% women upper managers. With programs explicitly designed to retain and promote gays and lesbians, NCR has earned its lesbian stripes. LEAGUE, the company's gay and lesbian employee group, sponsored its own Professional Development Conference last year and is very active within the company. NCR's benefits include adoption assistance, on-site fitness centers, and financial planning assistance.



AUG/SEPT SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

DOTMC Aug 14-Bike to Palmer Lake for breakfast. It's an 8 mile ride slightly uphill! But, a real fast ride back down!

Sept.4 or 11th-Breakfast and the Crags Hike. Also, the Pikes Peak hike. **Contact Marti for more information**. Don't hesitate to call or email her with your ideas: marti.harvey@wcom.com or pager 719.532.3921

PRIDE FEST Colorado Springs Mark your calendars now for August 27-28-29th. Musicfest that weekend has been expanded to two nights, Friday and Saturday, with the Pride Parade being held on Sunday. For further info, call the Helpline at 471-4429.

The 1999 Dyke Art Camp at Artsprings will be held August 1-7. Daily life drawing plus a diverse assortment of workshops will be offered. Group collaboration and individual work. All levels of serious Dyke artists. Camping, hot tub, woods, ponds, seclusion. Drug and alcohol free. Located 45 minutes S.W. of Portland, Oregon. For further information call 503-985-9549 or email:**artsprng@transport.com**

'Camp' Camp: A real summer camp in Maine for GLBT adults, **August 23-29**. Cabins. Mountain biking, pottery, hiking, crafts, swimming, stained-glass, windsurfing, fishing, dance, volleyball, canoeing, ropes course, jewelry, sailing, tennis, theater, crafts, softball, yoga. Great food and great friends. 1-888-924-8380, or, www.campcamp.com $685/person/week includes lodging, meals, and all activities.

The 1999 Michigan Womyn's Music Festival—August 10-15—This annual event attracts 5-8000 women for a week-long event that includes 40 performances, 200 workshops, a Film festival, Crafts Faire and 650 secluded acres for camping. For more information, write to WWTMC, PO Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458 or call 616-757-4766, or visit www.michfest.com

Aug 7th—Beach Ball and Party! The Pride Center will be turned into ocean front property! PPGLCC proudly presents the summer Beach Ball. Come dressed like Frankie and Annette, or be the best dressed male or female couple and win great prizes. If you would like to be on this fun and exciting committee, call Terry at 471-4429.

Aug 7-8— 14th Annual Mountain Arts Festival, Ute Pass Cultural Center, Fairview at Hwy 24, Woodland Park. Call 687-9885 or 687-7656.

Aug 11—Colorado Springs P-Flag annual potluck picnic. Call 575-8658.

Aug 13-15—Pueblo After Two railroad trip to Chama. Call Stephen at 719-566-3338. Cost $110.

Aug. 20-22 Aspen Summerfest-Call 970-925-9249 or925-4123, email aspengay@rof.net or visit www.gayskiweek.com or denver.sidewalk.com/detail/45998. Presented by the Aspen Gay and Lesbian Community Fund.

Aug. 20-22—Twentieth Anniversary of **Pikes Peak MCC**.

Aug. 20 7pm GospelFest 1999. An evening filled with gospel music and fun. **Aug 21 6:30pm-12:00am** Anniversary Dinner and Dance, The Double Tree Hotel World Arena. $25.00. **Aug 22** Worship Service with the Reverend Elder Troy D. Perry, founder and moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. For more info, call 634-3771.

Aug 28—S-CAP annual volunteers' picnic. Call 578-9092.

Aug 28-29 Lilith Fair, Fiddler's Green, Englewood. Info: www.denver.sidewalk.com/link/36971, or www.lilithfair.com/. Tickets #33.50-$80.50.

Sept. 4—Rainbow Family Picnic—Community Center membership meeting and board elections. Call 471-4429.

Sept. 4-6 Balloon Classic—Memorial Park, 6-11am all 3 days. Call 471-4833.

Sept. 12—AIDS Walk Colorado—organized by the Colorado AIDS Project, Denver. Call 800-333-AIDS or visit www.coloaids.org/capwalk/. In Colorado Springs, call S-CAP at 578-9092.

Sept. 12—Pueblo AIDS Walk, Nature Center, 8:30am, Call Paula at 719-560-9563.

Sept. 23-26: 1999 Boulder Gay & Lesbian Film Festival—E-mail info@boulderpride.org or visit www.boulderpride.org/Film_Festival.html. Mo phone # yet.

B-GALA Colorado College Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Call 389-7044.

B-GALA UCCS Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance. Call 471-4 GAY.

CCAD--Community Council for Adolescent Development Operates the Inside/Out group for GLBTQ youth. Call 328-1056.

CGRA--Colorado Gay Rodeo Association meets on the 1st Monday of each month. Call 576-CGRA.

Dignity For GLBT Catholics: Mass held on the 1st Saturday of each month, and brunch on the 2nd Sunday. Call 685-5343.

Equality Colorado The Colorado Springs office of this Denver-based advocacy organization. Call 227-8545.

Gay AA Meets on Mondays and Fridays at 8 p.m. and Thursdays at 6 p.m. Call 573-5020.

GLBT Parenting Group Provides discussion for parents and would-be parents and activities for kids. Meets on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Pride Center at 10 a.m. Call 471-4 GAY.

Inside/OUT Support group for GLBTQ youth that meets every Wednesday at the Pride Center at 5:30 p.m. Call 575-8484.

Lesbian Moms This group has just started meeting. Call. 471-4 GAY

Marriage Transitions For GLBT people who are or were in a heterosexual marriage. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Call 577-4755.

Dyke Psyche

By Ester Rothblum

Given the number and range of research projects about lesbians in recent years, it is easy to forget how challenging it was to survey lesbians even a decade ago. In the 1980s Caitlin Ryan and Judy Bradford conducted what became the National Lesbian Health Care Survey. This study eventually resulted in 1,925 completed questionnaires from lesbians in all 50 U.S. states. It figured prominently in the recent Institute of Medicine Report of the National Academy of Sciences. Even today, there are lesbians (including me!) who remember completing a questionnaire for this study 15 years ago. I recently asked Caitlin and Judy to describe the herstory and process of conducting the National Lesbian Health Care Survey in the mid-1980s.

In the late 1970s, Caitlin suggested forming a national organization that would be multi-disciplinary, focus on lesbian and gay health issues, and sponsor research and education. She began to talk with other lesbians about the need for a survey. There was no available information on how lesbians conceptualize lesbian health. She was also interested in how stigma affected health, mental health, self-care, and access to care. She applied for a grant though the newly formed National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation and hired a research consultant, Dot Parkel, who was a sociologist and survey researcher. Dot's role was to help design the study and to develop drafts of the questionnaire, using the input Caitlin had received from many lesbians. Caitlin told me: "I remember talking with a researcher who was herself a closeted lesbian, who sat down with me and basically told me that I could not possibly do a study like this. She just felt that it was not feasible. And, of course, there was no such thing as a representative sample. I saw this woman recently and we laughed about her earlier skepticism. She said, "I told you that you couldn't do it and you went out and did it."

Judy got started by attending the International Lesbian and Gay Health and AIDS Conference at New York University with a good friend, a man who was in her class in graduate school. They were both interested in AIDS research, which was just getting started then. Everywhere Judy looked--and she went to a lot of sessions at the conference--there were mostly men. Then she noticed in the Conference program a scheduled time for a women's group meeting. It turned out to be an organizing meeting for the National Lesbian Health Care Survey, and Caitlin was facilitating the group.

Conducting the National Lesbian Health Care Survey: First of Its Kind

When Judy said she was a graduate student and described a little of what she was doing, she suddenly became co-investigator and was responsible for data analysis and preparing the survey report.

One of the things Caitlin had been very concerned about was inclusion. So many of the early studies, and even those conducted today, have shown very highly educated samples of lesbians. She wanted to include women of color and women of different economic backgrounds and not have language be a barrier. So she talked with people about how to ask clinical questions in a non-clinical way. Caitlin said: "I talked with women bus drivers, day laborers, women who had been recently diagnosed with cancer, about their experiences and how we should ask these questions. All of that helped frame how we would shape a questionnaire."

She elicited suggestions about language in a series of focus groups that took place in several different parts of the country. They pre-tested the questionnaire at several lesbian and gay conferences and with individuals around the country. They would ask the women in the focus group to fill out the questionnaire, and then they would sit around and talk about it a little bit, and hear what people thought of it to make it more accessible. After several go-rounds using that process, they finalized the questionnaire. Since Caitlin had done the early lesbian and gay health organizing, she had a large address base of people all over the country who were willing to help distribute the questionnaires. They set up a distribution plan that was kind of an unusual approach to snowball sampling. The methodology was intended to get the questionnaires out as broadly as possible to people all over the country, including Alaska. They were concerned with getting the survey to under-represented populations that hadn't been sampled before, so they made a commitment to getting it to lesbians in the military, lesbians living on Indian reservations, and lesbians in prison. They also tried reaching non-English speaking women and they tried to reach lesbians of color in a variety of ways, including having lesbians of color give it out to their networks around the country. The National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays sent a mailing about the survey and how important it was and how to participate. The Wisconsin Governor's Task Force sent out mailings that went all over the state of Wisconsin. The National Organization of Women sent out information about the survey, and information about it was published in a variety of Lesbian and Gay newsletters.

The survey went out in the fall of 1984 and by early 1985 they had received surveys back from 1,925 lesbians from every U.S. state. It was a wonderful experi-

(Con't on page 9)

(Dyke Psyche con't from page 8)

ence for them, hearing from so many lesbians across the country, and it had the sense of a national movement. There was an electric energy--everyone had a great sense of how important the survey was.

Of course, a major issue was how to obtain money to fund data entry and data analysis. The early 1980s was not a time for funding lesbian projects. Once the struggles for funding were over (though the study was funded on a shoestring), Judy sent the questionnaires out to the Virginia State Prison, where all the lab's data entry was done at that time. She told me: "The questionnaires did not arrive back. When our project manager called about this, he was told they wouldn't code the surveys. I got another company to do it and the same thing happened. Finally when it came to the third company I was told that the data entry staff were afraid to touch the questionnaires for fear of getting AIDS!" Over the years, wherever Judy and Caitlin are, they continue to run into lesbians who participated in the survey, and who want to talk about the impact that it had on them. Many women wrote pages of material in addition to the answers they gave to the items on the questionnaire.

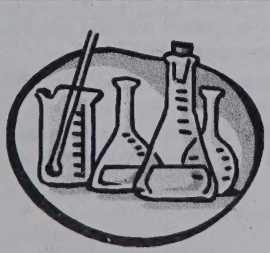
For published results of the National Lesbian Health Care Survey, see:

Bradford, J.B., & Ryan, C. (1991). Who we are: Health concerns of middle-aged lesbians. In B. Sang, J. Warshow, & A.J. Smith (Eds.) Lesbians at midlife: The creative transition (pp. 147-163). San Fransisco, CA: Spinsters Book Company.

Bradford, J.B., Ryan, C., & Rothblum, E.D. (1994). National Lesbian Health Care Survey: Implications for mental health care. Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, 62, 228-242.

Ryan, C., & Bradford, J. (1993). The National Lesbian Health Care Survey: An Overview. In D. Garnets & D. C. Kimmel (Eds.) Psychological perspectives on lesbian and gay male experiences. New York: Columbia University Press.

Esther Rothblum is Professor of Psychology at the University of Vermont and Editor of the Journal of Lesbian Studies. She can be reached at John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT, email: esther.rothblum@uvm.edu.



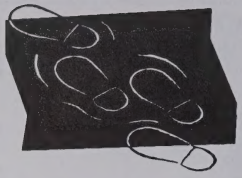
PPMCC ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Starting August 1, Sunday morning services at 10:30 am will be held in PPMCC'S new building—which PPMCC now OWNS! The new building is located at 1102 South 21st Street, Colorado Springs, CO 80904. Congratulations on your new building, PPMCC!

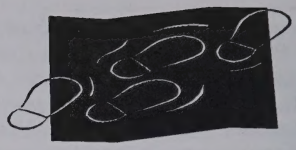
Pikes Peak MCC's own pastor, Rev. Nori Rost was elected to the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan community Churches' Board of Elders at the Nineteenth General Conference. The Board of elders are the visionary and spiritual leaders of the fellowship. There were seven nominees for the three open positions on the board, and Rev. Elder Rost was elected on the third ballot with 310 of the 310 votes cast. Our most heartfelt congratulations go out to you, Nori, both on your election to the Board of Elders, and to finally owning your own church building!

BEACH BALL—AUGUST 7TH

The Pride Center will be turned into ocean front property! There is a fabulous fun evening planned. There will be a dance, cool contests such as limbo and a hula hoop parade, best dressed male/female couple, most outrageous beach wear, and the ultimate: come as reverse gender Frankie and Annette and be crowned the King and Queen of the Ball! Get your chance to Spank the Monkey and win a Bed and breakfast stay in Denver, among other valuable prizes. You can even get lei'd! Cash bar with beer, wine, soda, water. And of course, Foo Foo drinks complete with little parasols! There will even be summer-time food for you. Tickets are $7/person and are available at PPGLCC or spice of Life in Manitou. Contact Terry at 471-4429 for more information.



WHAT'S HAPPENING!!!



Two teen-age boys who admitted to beating a gay man to death after he called one of them "beautiful" were convicted of 2nd degree murder and 3rd degree murder motivated by hate. They were covicted in the slaying of Steven Goedereis in 1998 outside a convenience store.

Sacramento, CA—A United Methodist Church committee has begun investigating whether to charge 68 ministers with violating church law for blessing a lesbian "holy union" in January. The Rev. Donald Fado, who took part in the ceremony for the two women and is among those facing possible removal from the clergy, hopes the case will lead to the end of the church's ban on gay weddings. Fado told his congregation in October he wanted to protest a ruling by the Methodist Judicial Council that a minister could be removed for violating the ban on gay weddings.

Atlanta, GA—The Southern Baptists voted overwhelmingly to urge President Clinton to rescind James Hormel's appointment as the nation's first openly gay ambassador. Hormel, a former dean of the University of Chicago law school, used part of his family's Hormel meatpacking fortune to help create the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political group.

No federal law protects Americans from employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. This gap in basic civil rights laws means that in 40 states, employers can legally fire, refuse to hire, or otherwise discriminate against qualified people who happen to be gay, lesbian, or bisexual—or who are perceived as such. To insure fairness and equality in the workplace HRC's goal is to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act in the 106th Congress. ENDA would prohibit job discrimination based on sexual orientation. The bill is supported by major business, as well as civil rights groups, labor unions, churches and religious organizations.

Fighting HIV and AIDS—The success of new drug treatments in prolonging lives and reducing death rates is leading some people to believe that the AIDS epidemic is no longer a public health crisis. The reality is that 40,000 people become infected with HIV every year, and no evidence shows that these new infections are decreasing. HRC will work to strengthen the national response to AIDS. Their goals are to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act, promote broader access to medical care and a comprehensive HIV prevention plan, increase funding for AIDS initiatives across the Board, and ensure that federal AIDS policy is based on science, not politics.

Protecting lesbian's health—A recent groundbreaking study from the Institute of Medicine on Lesbian Health revealed that lesbians may be at greater risk than other women for conditions such as breast and cervical cancer. The report concluded that the health care system is not addressing health issues faced by lesbians because so little information exists about their particular medical needs. If the medical concerns of lesbians are to be addressed seriously at the national level, agencies including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the National Institutes of Health must take an active interest in lesbian health issues. Lesbians may be at higher risk for breast cancer because of perceived higher rates of alcohol consumption, being overweight and childlessness. They also may be at higher risk for ovarian cancer because they're less likely to bear children or use birth control pills.

It is a myth that lesbians don't need Pap smears to detect cervical cancer, or that lesbians do not contract HIV/AIDS.

Societal attitudes toward homosexuality may affect lesbians physical and mental health, including their suicide risk, but too little research has been done to date.

Doctors, particularly gynecologists, have little training in treating lesbian patients, which can affect quality of care and discourage patients from seeking care.

One of the few studies on lesbians, in Michigan, found 20% of lesbians surveyed reported encounters with doctors who knew nothing about lesbians.

Louisiana Appeals Court—Has unanimously struck down the state's "crime against nature" statute as unconsititutional when applied to "private, consensual, non-commercial acts of sexual intimacy between individuals who are legally capable of giving their consent."

New York—Rep. Michael P. Forbes (R) has stepped into a leadership role for lesbian and gay civil rights. Joining four of his House colleagues, Forbes is a leading sponsor of the Hate Crimes Prevention Act and has become, for the first time, a cosponsor of ENDA.

Michigan—Rep. John Conyers (D) introduced the Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 1999. Rep. Conyers is leading the work to increase support for this bill. Conyers also cosponsored the Employment Non-Discirmination Act.

Building Community Resource Page

COLORADO SPRINGS

BARS/RESTAURANTS

HOURGlass Lounge	719.473-9723
Hide n' Seek	719.634-9303
Women2Womyn	719.634-9303

BOOKSTORE

Chinook Bookshop	719-635-1195
Celebration New Age Store 2209 W. Colorado Ave.	719.634-1855

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pikes Peak Community Ctr. PO Box 607, 80901	719.471-4429

ORGANIZATIONS

Equality Colorado	719.227-8545
Inside/Out Youth Group	719.578-3160
Netcore	719-471-4429
Pikes Peak MCC 730 N.Tejon	719.634-3771
PFLAG-COS	719.598-5298
Southern CO AIDS Project PO Box 311, 80901	719.578-9092
Women's Social Group	719 471-4429

DENVER & BOULDER

Addresses are Denver unless otherwise stated

BOOKSTORES

The Book Garden 2625 E. 12th Ave, 80206	800-279-2426
Word Is Out 1731 Fifteenth St. Boulder, CO 80302	303.449-1415

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Anti-Violence Project	303.839-5540
Boulder SafeHouse	303 .444-2424
Crisis Line (24hrs)	303.852-5094
GLBCSCC PO Drawer 18E, 80218-0140	303.831-6268
Lambda Report PO Box 9742, 80290 KBDI-12 Thurs 11pm	303.331-2360

ORGANIZATIONS

Citizens for Human Rights PO Box 261112 Lakewood, 80226	303.430-4818
Colorado AIDS Project	303-837-0166
CO Legal Initiatives Project PO Box 300397 80203	303.830-2100
Empowerment Program HIV Infected Womyn	303.863-7817
Equality Colorado PO Box 300476, 80203	303.839-5540 1-888-557-4441
G/L/Straight Teachers Network meets 2nd Monday	303.232-3789
G/L Latino Alliance	303.281-9376
GLB Community Center	303.831-6268
It's Me Again breast prostheses	303.939-9245
Job Survival Hotline	1-800-522-0925
Law Line 9 free legal advice	303.698-0999
Lesbian Avengers meets Thursdays	303.861-1084 303.321-8788
Lesbians Choosing Children meets monthly email rrosechild@aol.com	303.333-3771 303.727-8535
Lesbian Connection, The 2525 Arapahoe #E4-233 Boulder, 80302	303.443-1105
Lesbian Domestic Violence Support Group SafeHouse Denver	303.892-8400
Lesbian Herstory Archives PO Box 1258 NY, NY 10116	718.768-3953
Log Cabin Republicans G/L Republicans	303.837-1975
Military Veterans-RMGLB Vets of AM PO Box 721, Denver, 80201	
NOW 1552 Pennsylvania, 80203	303.830-2795
PFLAG-Denver PO Box 18901, 80219	303.333-0286
Rainbow Wings-Support for Lesbian Survivors of Sexual Abuse	303.238-8660
Sister II Sister Black Sisters support group	303.831-6268
SOL (Slightly Older Lesbians) Denver	303.399-2069
Teens AIDS Hot-Line	800-234TEEN
Women's Outdoor Club PO Box 300085, 80203	303.271-3576
Womynscircle Womyn's Support Group-Tuesdays	303.831-6268

DENVER BARS

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Denver Detour 551 E. Colfax	303.320-9337
Elle, The 716 W. Colfax	303.572-1710
Grand, The 538 E. 17th Ave	303.839-5390
Tracks 2000 2975 Fox St.	303.292-6600

PUEBLO

Christ Congregational UCC Bonforte & Liberty LN.	719.544-0746
MCC Pueblo	719.543-6460
PFLAG-Pueblo PO Box 4484, 81502	719.542-6359
Pueblo After 2 PO Box 1602, 81002	719.564-4004
Southern CO AIDS Project	719.561-2616

MISCELLANEOUS LISTINGS

Internet Service Providers	719.385-0111

DIRECTORIES

Rainbow List PO Drawer 2270 Boulder, 80306-2270	303.443-7768
G&L Yellow Pages	303.863-9232
Lesbian & Gay Pink Pages PO Box 18306, 80219	303.831-7126

The New Phazes Staff encourages your responses to editorials or articles. All submissions must be received by the 15th of the month. Send all responses to:

New Phazes Editor
PO Box 6485, COS/CO 80934
Email: newphazes@juno.com

MORE WHAT'S HAPPENING

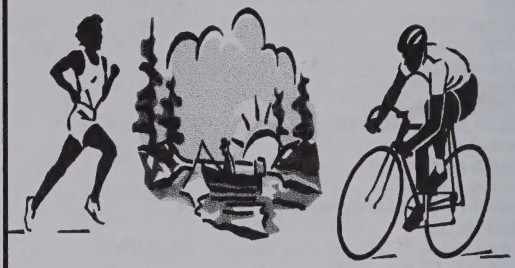
NGLTF – Religious Roundtable

Sunday, August 22, The Pride Center will be the site of a welcoming reception for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Religious Roundtable. Please plan on joining Equality Colorado at the Pride Center (125 N. Parkside) on Sunday from 7:30-9:30pm for a dessert and cocktail reception. On Monday, August 23rd, the Roundtable will have a public forum event. For More information, contact Equality Colorado at 227-8545.

Two protesters were arrested at the Ohio Statehouse in Columbus after one of them took a rainbow flag and burned it. They were taken into custody during an altercation between the protesters and gay rights advocates and have been charged with rioting, criminal damaging, and disorderly conduct.

Presbyterian leaders rejected a measure that could have opened the door to the ordination of non-celibate gays and lesbians. During the annual meeting of the 2.6 million-member Presbyterian Church, delegates decided 389-198 not to allow the church's regional governing bodies to vote on the issue.

Rocky Mtn Chapter of the Sierra Club, Gay and Lesbian section – The Sierra Club has 600,000 members nationwide and is one of the oldest and most respected grassroots environmental organizations in the world. The Gay and Lesbian group is sanctioned as an official Activities Section of the Club – the 7th to be formed in the country. A wide variety of activities are available from hikes and bike rides, to learning backcountry survival and maintaining trails. The Gay and Lesbian Sierrans extend a warm welcome to all gays and lesbians who would like to join Sierra Club activities, even if they are not yet members. Call Greg Cafini, Chair of the gay section, for more info. Ask for a quarterly newsletter that lists projects and other info. 303-861-2844.



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Rev. Nori J. Rost, Pastor

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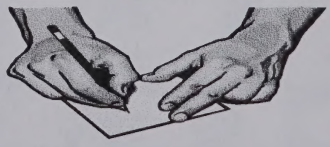

WANTED: WRITERS, POETS, JOKESTERS.

New Phazes is looking for contributors. If you have a short story, your original poetry, your favorite lesbian/bi/gay/transgendered jokes that you would like to see in our newsletter, please mail them to: New Phazes, PO Box 6485, COS, CO 80934-6485 or email them to: newphazes@juno.com

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